

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 03585 171753Z
ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGR-01 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /125 W
-----047902 180525Z /15

R 171642Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WAHSDC 1960
INFO USMSSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 3585

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN ETRD VE
SUBJECT: MTN: ADDITIONAL VENEZUELAN REQUESTS

REF: GENEVA 5374

1. EMBOFF MET APRIL 14 WITH FREDDIE CHRISTIANSEN,
FORMER GOV REPRESENTATIVE IN GENEVA AND NOW IN CHARGE
OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS IN THE FOREIGN
TRADE INSTITUTE (ICE). DRAWING ON SUBSTANCE OF
REFTEL, WE POINTED OUT THAT VENEZUELAN REQUEST WAS
NEEDED FOR U.S. TO MAKE OFFER ON CRAB MEAT, TONKA
BEANS, GELATIN AND PRESERVED FISH. CHRISTIANSEN
AGREED TO REVIEW LIST AND SEE WHETHER GOV INTERESTED
IN TAKING ACTION.

2. DURING MEETING CHRISTIANSEN REITERATED LITANY
DELIVERED EARLIER BY GERBASI (CARACAS 1195) AND VARGAS
(CARACAS 2043). THE ESSENCE OF THE PRESENTATION WAS
AS FOLLOWS:

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-- MTN DECISIONS ARE BEING MADE BY THE MAJOR
INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES.

-- DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE NOT ADEQUATELY CONSULTED
WHEN JULY DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF MTN WAS ESTABLISHED.

-- IN ANY CASE, WHILE GOV WISHED TO NEGOTIATE TRADE

CONCESSIONS, BECAUSE OF COMPOSITION OF VENEZUELAN EXPORTS
AND EXCLUSION OF PETROLEUM FROM MTN PROCESS, VENEZUELAN
HAD LITTLE TO GAIN FROM MTN DELIBERATIONS. ERGO
GOV HAD LITTLE INCENTIVE TO PARTICIPATE MORE
FULLY.

3. TURNING TO ANOTHER SUBJECT, CHRISTIANSEN SAID THAT
PROSPECTS FOR GOV BECOMING MEMBER OF GATT WERE POORER
NOW THAN 18 MONTHS AGO. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT,
EARLY IN 1977, WE REPORTED GOV HAD MADE DECISION IN
PRINCIPLE TO JOIN THE GATT (77 CARACAS 2144). ACCORDING
TO CHRISTIANSEN, GOV HAS BACKED AWAY FROM THAT DECISION;
HE SAYS THERE IS GROWING FEELING WITHIN GOV THAT
VENEZUELA HAS LITTLE TO GAIN FROM GATT MEMBERSHIP. THIS
CONVICTION GROWS OUT OF VENEZUELA'S "DISAPPOINTING"
EXPERIENCE IN THE MTN.
VAKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: POLICIES, TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS, PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: ETRD, VE, MTN
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Review Markings:
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